(vi) Additional burden on account of purchase of foreign exchange at market rate consequent to changes introduced in the Finance Act, 1992, etc.;

(c) The following steps have been taken to improve the financial performance:

(i) Readjustment of schedules matching with demand;

(ii) Economising on aricraft fuel consumption by shortening of routes, optimisation of speed/cruise levels etc.;

(iii) Reduction of establishment expenses;

(iv) Non-operational expenditure on civil works, furniture, fixtures, office equipment, etc. are avoided/deferred as far as possible;

(v) Readjustment of passenger fares and freight rates;

(vi) Frequent pre-flight checks to avoid wastage on food uplift/catering items.

Transporting International passengers by Air India

1118. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of Air India at present in transporting international passengers;

(b) how does it compare with the figures for the years 1960, 1970 and 1980;

(c) what are the reasons for decline in Air India's share in the international passenger transportation; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to increase the business of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Air India's share of international passenger air transport market was 43.9 per cent, 41.5 per cent, 39.3 per cent and 31.4 per cent in the year 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990 respectively.

(c) and (d) International air transport is fiercely competitive; over the year, a number of carriers operating to India have increased their frequency and capacity. These competitors also fly to more destinations world-wide. Air India has not been able to expand its capacity at the same rate and, therefore, a decline has occurred in its market share. In order to arrest this declining trend, Air India has developed a fleet renewal and expansion plan upto the year 2010-11 which envisages increase of seating capacity. The fleet plan also envisages a 10-year roll over policy for aircraft which is expected to result in improved on-time performance, better passenger appeal. Air India also aims at improvement in the quality of its service in general to meet competition from other carriers.

Cases against Vice-Presiednt of I.T.D.C.

1119. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of cases against the Vice-President (Project Engineering) of I.T.D.C. which have been investigated or are under investigation by CBI/CVC till date;

(b) whether it is a fact that CVC has recommended in one of the cases 'major penalty action' against Vice-President (PE) I.T.D.C. and his General Manager (E&M); and

(c) if so, what are the details of the said case and action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a)